

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09
OES-07 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11 L-03 /113 W
-----055164 271733Z /47

P 271701Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7600

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 10214

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, PORG, IMCO
SUBJECT: IMCO: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRAINING
AND CERTIFICATION OF SEAFARERS (TCS) --
ACTIVITIES JUNE 19-26

REF: LONDON 9706

1. SUMMARY: CONFERENCE PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY
FROM U.S. POINT OF VIEW.

2. COMMITTEE I (ARTICLES): TITLE OF CONVENTION
CHANGED TO "INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF
TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING FOR
SEAFARERS." ARTICLES RELATING TO THE GENERAL
OBLIGATIONS (IL. DEFINITIONS (II), EXCEPT FOR THE
DEFINITION OF "CERTIFICATE"; APPLICATION (III);
COMMUNICATION OF INFORMATION (IV); PRIOR TREATIES (V);
AND, TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS (VII), HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED
BY THE COMMITTEE IN A FORM LARGELY ACCEPTABLE TO U.S.
AGREEMENT REACHED WITH USSR ON ACCEPTABLE TREATMENT OF
ISSUE OF "DESIGNATED NEAR COASTAL WATERS" INVOLVING
CHANGE OF TITLE OF ARTICLE. A JOINT PROPOSAL IS
EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED TO COMMITTEE LATER THIS WEEK.
WORKING GROUP ON DISPENSATION (VIII) REPORTED TO THE
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COMMITTEE WHICH HAS DRAFT TEXT UNDER DISCUSSION. AFTER
CONSIDERABLE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION IN COMMITTEE I, AN
INFORMAL DRAFTING GROUP OF MORE THAN 20 COUNTRIES (U.S.
CHAIRMAN) PREPARED A NEW DRAFT TEXT OF CONTROL ARTICLE
(X). TEXT WAS BEST COMPROMISE THAT COULD BE REACHED AND
ON THAT BASIS WAS SUPPORTED IN COMMITTEE I BY ALL BUT
USSR. SEVERAL NON-PARTICIPANTS JOINED WITH THE SINGLE

DISSENTER PREVENTING CONSENSUS AGREEMENT IN COMMITTEE I.
DRAFTING GROUP WAS REESTABLISHED TO TRY TO MAKE
ADJUSTMENTS TO LANGUAGE BUT NOT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF
STRONG CONTROL AND DETENTION OF VESSELS BY PORT STATE
CONTROL OFFICERS. LANGUAGE IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE
NECESSARY TO DELINEATE CLEARLY MEASURES FOR WHICH
CONTROL OFFICER CAN DETAIN SHIP. OVERALL PROGNOSIS GOOD.

3. COMMITTEE II (DECK): COMMITTEE REVIEWED SEA TIME AND
EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS OF REGULATION II/3 CONCERNING
MASTERS AND CHIEF MATES ON VESSELS OVER 200 GROSS TONS
AND DECIDED UPON REDUCED REQUIREMENTS FROM PRESENT DRAFT
CONVENTION. AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION AND WITH U.S.
OPPOSITION, COMMITTEE CHANGED PRESENT TEXT OF DRAFT
CONVENTION REGULATION II/4 FOR OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF A
NAVIGATIONAL WATCH ON VESSELS OVER 200 GROSS TONS BY
REQUIRING A TRAINING COURSE FOR SUCH OFFICERS TO INCLUDE
AT LEAST TWELVE (12) MONTHS SEA TIME. THIS CHANGE WILL
DIRECTLY AFFECT U.S. FEDERAL AND STATE MARITIME TRAINING
PROGRAMS WHICH PRESENTLY INCLUDE ONLY 6-9 MONTHS SEA TIME
TRAINING. HOWEVER, SOME RELIEF MAY BE AVAILABLE IN
EQUIVALENTS ARTICLE (IX). OTHER DECK REGULATIONS
DISCUSSED AND MINOR CHANGES MADE, BUT DRAFT TEXT
ESSENTIALLY REMAINS UNCHANGED.

4. COMMITTEE III (ENGINEERING): DISCUSSION OF
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ENGINEERING PAPERS PROGRESSING. SOME PROBLEMS WITH NEW DEFINITIONS RESOLVED. SOME DEGREE OF ADMINISTRATION LATITUDE ON REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIPS OF LIMITED POWER WAS ACHIEVED. GOOD PROGRESS BEING MADE. LIVELY DISCUSSION ON CERTIFICATION OF ENGINE ROOM RATINGS PROCEEDING.

5. COMMITTEE IV (RADIO): SATISFACTORY PROGRESS MADE TO DATE. RADIO PAPERS APPROVED THUS FAR REMAIN ESSENTIALLY AS SHOWN IN DRAFT CONVENTION. U.S. PROPOSAL TO DELETE DRAFT RESOLUTION 12 CONCERNING THE TRAINING OF RADIOTELEPHONE OPERATORS WAS DEFEATED AFTER CONSIDERABLE DEBATE.

6. WORKING GROUP ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING OF CREWS ON TANKERS ELECTED CAPTAIN JESTICO (UK) AS CHAIRMAN AND ADOPTED U.S. DRAFTS AS WORKING PAPERS. DRAFT REGULATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ON OIL, CHEMICAL, AND LIQUEFIED GAS TANKERS WERE PRODUCED AND AGREED IN SUBSTANTIALLY SAME FORM AS SUBMITTED BY U.S. DURING A JOINT SESSION OF COMMITTEES II AND III ON 23 JUNE, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT DOCUMENT WAS GOOD, BUT EXCEPTION TAKEN BY SOME DELEGATIONS TO THE MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS ON LIQUEFIED GAS CARRIERS. A WORKING GROUP UNCLASSIFIED

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DEVELOPED A RESOLUTION TO ACCOMMODATE THESE EXCEPTIONS. MANDATORY REGULATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY A JOINT MEETING OF COMMITTEES II AND III AFTER ACCEPTANCE OF A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR TECHNICAL AID IN THIS AREA OF TRAINING FOR LESSER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

7. DRAFTING COMMITTEE FINALIZED MOST DEFINITIONS SUBMITTED BY COMMITTEES. SATISFACTORY PROGRESS MADE ON PAPERS SUBMITTED FOR SIMPLIFICATION AND CLARIFICATION. EXPECT WORKLOAD TO INCREASE HEAVILY AS COMMITTEES COMPLETE THEIR ASSIGNED WORK NEXT WEEK.

8. USDEL SENDS.
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Message Attributes

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